

Privacy and COVID-19 Vaccine Passports

Privacy and COVID-19 Vaccine Passports - Office of the Privacy Commissioner of Canada
https://priv.gc.ca/en/opc-news/speeches/2021/s-d_20210519/

ORIGINAL VERSION OF THE OPC NEWS RELEASE 19MAY21 – 25MAY21 SCREENSHOT

1 of 3 2021-05-25, 10:50 a.m.
Privacy and COVID-19 Vaccine Passports - Office of the Privacy Commi... https://priv.gc.ca/en/opc-news/speeches/2021/s-d_20210519/

the outset and must continue to be effective throughout their lifecycle.

- **Proportionality:** the privacy risks associated with vaccine passports must be proportionate to each of the public health purposes they are intended to address. Data minimization should be applied so that the least amount of personal health information is collected, used or disclosed.

The necessity, effectiveness and proportionality of vaccine passports must be continually monitored to ensure that they continue to be justified. Vaccine passports must be decommissioned if, at any time, it is determined that they are not a necessary, effective or proportionate response to address their public health purposes.

So far we have not been presented with evidence of vaccine effectiveness to prevent transmission, although members of the scientific community have indicated that this may be forthcoming. We recognize that scientific knowledge about COVID-19 and the vaccines is advancing quickly and discussions about vaccine passports are underway in some jurisdictions. When contemplating the introduction of vaccine passports, we recommend that governments and businesses adhere to the following privacy principles:

Dated
the
same

Sentence
removed
below

- **Legal authority:** There must be clear legal authority for introducing use of vaccine passports for each intended purpose. Public and private sector entities that require or request individuals to present a vaccine passport in order to receive services or enter premises must ensure that they have the legal authority to make

MODIFIED VERSION OF THE OPC NEWS RELEASE 19MAY21 – 11NOV21 SCREENSHOT with the following section removed from the original May 19, 2021 news release:

“So far we have not been presented with evidence of vaccine effectiveness to prevent transmission, although members of the scientific community have indicated that this may be forthcoming.”

1 of 3 2021-11-11, 1:16 a.m.
Privacy and COVID-19 Vaccine Passports - Office of the Privacy Commi... https://priv.gc.ca/en/opc-news/speeches/2021/s-d_20210519/

the outset and must continue to be effective throughout their lifecycle.

- **Proportionality:** the privacy risks associated with vaccine passports must be proportionate to each of the public health purposes they are intended to address. Data minimization should be applied so that the least amount of personal health information is collected, used or disclosed.

The necessity, effectiveness and proportionality of vaccine passports must be continually monitored to ensure that they continue to be justified. Vaccine passports must be decommissioned if, at any time, it is determined that they are not a necessary, effective or proportionate response to address their public health purposes.

We recognize that scientific knowledge about COVID-19 and the vaccines is advancing quickly and discussions about vaccine passports are underway in some jurisdictions. When contemplating the introduction of vaccine passports, we recommend that governments and businesses adhere to the following privacy principles:

- **Legal authority:** There must be clear legal authority for introducing use of vaccine passports for each intended purpose. Public and private sector entities that require or request individuals to present a vaccine passport in order to receive services or enter premises must ensure that they have the legal authority to make